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1962/10/26

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

228

47-48

Action

ARA

Control: 19012
Rec'd: OCTOBER 27, 1962
12:56 A.M.

Info

FROM: RIO DE JANEIRO

SS

TO: Secretary of State

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SP

NO: 898, OCTOBER 26, 10 PM (SECTION 1 OF 11)

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RMR

EMBASSY TELEGRAM 895.

FOLLOWING IS INFORMAL TRANSLATION (UNNECESSARY WORDS OMITTED)
OF LETTER ADDRESSED TO PRESIDENT KENNEDY BY PRESIDENT
GOULART UNDER DATE OCTOBER 26:

(BEGIN TEXT)

MR. PRESIDENT:

I RECEIVED WITH APPRECIATION AND CONSIDERED WITH ATTENTION
LETTER IN WHICH YOUR EXCELLENCY FOUND IT APPROPRIATE TO
INFORM ME THAT THERE HAD BEEN EVIDENCE OF PRESENCE ON CUBAN
TERRITORY OF OFFENSIVE WEAPONS CAPABLE OF CONSTITUTING A
THREAT TO COUNTRIES OF THIS HEMISPHERE. IN THIS LETTER YOUR
EXCELLENCY ALSO REQUESTED SUPPORT OF BRAZIL FOR MEASURES
WHICH YOUR GOVERNMENT WOULD PROPOSE TO OAS COUNCIL AND TO
SECURITY COUNCIL OF UN, BASED UPON PROVISIONS OF TREATY OF
RIO DE JANEIRO AND OF SAN FRANCISCO CHARTER.

YOU ARE ALREADY AWARE OF STATEMENT MADE BY BRAZILIAN DELEGATE
IN FIRST OF THESE BODIES. I WISH HOWEVER TO AVAIL MYSELF
OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT TO YOUR EXCELLENCY, WITH
FRANKNESS AND SINCERITY CALLED FOR NOT ONLY AS A DUTY BUT
AS AN OBLIGATION BECAUSE OF MY PERSONAL REGARD FOR YOUR

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY

DATE 5/19/86

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/EXCELLENCY

Date: 8/6/92

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-2- 898, OCTOBER 26, 10 PM (SECTION 1 OF 11), FROM RIO DE JANEIRO

EXCELLENCY AND TRADITIONAL FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN OUR PEOPLES,
~~SOME CONSIDERATIONS WITH REGARD TO BRAZILIAN POSITION~~
~~ON CASE OF CUBA~~, AS WELL AS WITH REGARD TO DIRECTIONS WHICH
HAVE BEEN RECENTLY PREVAILING IN DECISIONS OF OAS.

YOUR EXCELLENCY KNOWS UNSHAKEABLE LOYALTY OF BRAZIL TO
DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES AND IDEALS OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION.
WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF THIS LOYALTY OUR COUNTRIES HAVE ALREADY
FOUGHT SIDE BY SIDE IN TWO WORLD WARS, WHICH COST US
SACRIFICE OF INNUMERABLE LIVES AND IMPOSED UPON US,
PROPORTIONATELY AND IN A DIFFERENT MANNER, HEAVY MATERIAL
LOSSES.

DEMOCRATIC SENTIMENTS OF BRAZILIAN PEOPLE AND OF ITS
GOVERNMENT ARE TODAY, ONE MIGHT SAY, GREATER AND MORE
DEEPLY ROOTED THAN IN PAST, BECAUSE WITH PASSAGE OF YEARS
AND ACCELERATION OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OUR POLITICAL
INSTITUTIONS HAVE BEEN STRENGTHENED AND HAVE STABILIZED
THEMSELVES, UNDER PRINCIPLE OF SUPREMACY OF LAW.

IT WAS NATURAL THAT IN PARALLEL WITH STRENGTHENING OF
DEMOCRACY, A SENSE OF INTERNATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY SHOULD
DEVELOP, LEADING US TO PARTICIPATE IN EVENTS AND PROBLEMS
NOT ONLY OF A REGIONAL BUT ALSO OF A GLOBAL CHARACTER, SO
THAT WE FACE THESE IN LIGHT OF OUR NATIONAL INTERESTS AND
IN ACCORD WITH DICTATES OF OUR PUBLIC OPINION.

IN SPEECH WHICH I HAD HONOR TO DELIVER BEFORE AMERICAN
CONGRESS ON APRIL 4, 1962 I TRIED TO SUM UP AND ENUNCIATE
CLEARLY THE DOMINANT ASPECTS OF OUR POSITION IN FOLLOWING
TERMS:

"INTERNATIONAL ACTION OF BRAZIL HAS NO OTHER OBJECTIVE BUT
THAT OF FAVORING PRESERVATION AND STRENGTHENING OF PEACE
BY ALL MEANS AT OUR DISPOSAL. WE BELIEVE THAT IDEOLOGICAL

/CONFLICT

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-3- 898, OCTOBER 26, 10 PM (SECTION 1 OF 11), FROM RIO DE JANEIRO

CONFLICT BETWEEN WEST AND EAST CANNOT AND MUST NOT BE RESOLVED MILITARILY BECAUSE, EVEN IF WE WERE TO SAVE OUR LIVES DURING A NUCLEAR WAR, WHETHER VICTORIOUS OR DEFEATED WE WOULD BE UNABLE TO SAVE OUR REASON FOR LIVING. AN END TO PERILOUS ARMS RACE MUST BE FOUND THROUGH COEXISTENCE AND NEGOTIATION. BRAZIL BELIEVES COEXISTENCE BETWEEN DEMOCRATIC WORLD AND SOCIALIST WORLD MAY BE BENEFICIAL THROUGH UNDERSTANDING AND INTEGRATION OF COMMON EXPERIENCES. WE HOPE THESE CONTACTS WILL SHOW THAT REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY IS MOST PERFECT OF TYPES OF GOVERNMENT AND MOST COMPATIBLE WITH PROTECTION OF MAN AND PRESERVATION OF HIS FREEDOM".

DEFENSE OF PRINCIPLE OF SELF-DETERMINATION OF PEOPLES, IN ITS BROADEST SENSE, HAS BECOME A CRUCIAL POINT OF FOREIGN POLICY OF BRAZIL, NOT ONLY FOR REASONS OF A JURIDICAL NATURE, BUT BECAUSE IN IT WE SEE INDISPENSABLE REQUISITE FOR PRESERVATION OF INDEPENDENCE AND OF APPROPRIATE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH EVOLUTION OF EACH PEOPLE MAY TAKE PLACE.

IT IS THEREFORE UNDERSTANDABLE THAT ANY FORM OF INTERVENTION IN AN AMERICAN STATE INSPIRED BY ALLEGED INCOMPATIBILITY OF ITS POLITICAL REGIME IS DEEPLY DISPLEASING TO CONSCIENCE OF BRAZILIAN PEOPLE WHEN THIS IS FOR PURPOSE OF IMPOSING UPON THAT NATION A REPRESENTATIVE SYSTEM BY MEANS OF EXTERNAL COERCION WHICH REMOVES ITS DEMOCRATIC CHARACTER AND VALIDITY. FOR THIS REASON BRAZIL AT EIGHTH MEETING OF AMERICAN FOREIGN MINISTERS OPPOSED IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS AGAINST CUBAN REGIME, ALL MORE SO BECAUSE AT THAT TIME, UNLIKE WHAT HAS JUST HAPPENED, NO CONCRETE FACTS WERE POINTED OUT WHICH MIGHT ENABLE ONE TO FORECAST POSSIBILITY OF AN ARMED ATTACK.

GORDON.

SJR/DLW

Note: Advance copy to SS-0
Passed White House per SS-0

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Nº 823 Rezident of the USSR KGB of the Council of Ministers
26.X.62

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